

**CEANTAR BARDASACH CHATHAIR CHILL CHAINNIGH**  
**MUNICIPAL DISTRICT OF KILKENNY CITY**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF DRAFT BUDGET PLAN 2019 MEETING HELD  
ON 8<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER, 2019 AT 1.00 P.M.**

**Mayor, Councillor Martin Brett, Presiding.**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Joe Malone, Andrew McGuinness, Malcolm Noonan, David Fitzgerald, John Coonan, Eugene McGuinness.

**Apologies:**

**Also Present:** Mr. Martin Prendiville, Head of Finance, Mr. Tim Butler, Director of Services, Mr. Ian Gardner, Senior Engineer, Ms. Anne Maria Walsh, Senior Executive Officer and Ms. Teresa Mahon, Staff Officer.

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**Mayor's Summons of Meeting:**

Notice dated 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2019 convening a Draft Budget Plan Meeting for this date was read.

**1. Business prescribed by Statute, Standing Orders or Resolutions of the Municipal District Members for transaction at such meeting:**

**(a)** Adoption of Draft Budget Plan.

Mr. Martin Prendiville, Head of Finance, outlined the statutory process under the Local Government Reform Act 2014, which prescribes the requirement to adopt a budget for the Municipal District.

**Discretionary Roads Budget            €500,000 (Estimate)**

This Discretionary Roads Budget is subject to works being identified that are consistent with Appendix 1 of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sports' Memorandum on Grants for Regional and Local Roads – Revised 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2012 (circulated). A detailed programme of work will be agreed with the Area Engineer at the start of 2020, for inclusion in the 2020 Roads Works Scheme.

## **Discretionary General Budget      €40,000**

This Discretionary General Budget can be used in any area, the detail of which is to be discussed and agreed at the budget meeting. Members must take into account any existing discretionary (recurring or once off) items when allocating this General Budget figure of €40,000.

Following some clarification and further discussion Mr. Martin Prendiville and Mr. Tim Butler responded to queries raised by Members in relation to the Discretionary General Budget.

Cllr David Fitzgerald referred to an extract of a letter from John Harte Solicitors which advised that only the members of the Municipal District have the power to make the parking bye-laws for the District including the power to direct the application of the parking fees and fines received. Cllr. Fitzgerald went on to express his concerns that income generated entirely in the Municipal District of Kilkenny City is being spent in other Districts at the time when the city is facing serious challenges. He asked that the Budget not be adopted until clarification is received on how this money is spent.

Mr. Prendiville explained to the Members their reserved function in adopting the Municipal District Budget. Mr. Butler provided the Members with further advice in John Harte's letter within the context of the overall budget for Kilkenny County Council. It is the Planery Council that makes the decisions for the Council as a whole. He reminded Members of the former County Charge that was levied pre-2014 for all the services provided by the County Council to the City such as, fire services, library services etc. He explained that he had consulted with other Local Authorities and they were operating in the same way as Kilkenny County Council.

Members asked for 2 adjournments during the meeting to discuss the content of John Harte's letter and the consequences of changing the allocation of funds in the overall Council budget.

The first adjournment was:

Proposed by:            Cllr. David Fitzgerald  
Seconded by:          Cllr. Eugene McGuinness

And agreed by all that there would be a 10-minute adjournment

The meeting resumed after the allotted time had elapsed and after further discussion a another 10-minute adjournment was requested.

It was agreed to complete this meeting and adjourn the commencement of the monthly meeting.

It was:

Proposed by:            Cllr. Malcom Noonan  
Seconded by:          Cllr. David Fitzgerald

The second adjournment was:

Proposed by: Cllr. Joe Malone  
Seconded by: Cllr. Malcolm Noonan

And agreed by all that there would be a 10-minute adjournment.

The meeting resumed:

It was:

Proposed by: Cllr. David Fitzgerald  
Seconded by: Cllr. Eugene McGuinness

“That the Municipal District of Kilkenny City hereby proposed the adoption of the following draft Budget”,

Discretionary Roads Budget	€ 500,000
Discretionary General Budget	€ 40,000

subject to the following (a) that they are provided with a breakdown of how the revenue from car-parking charges and fines generated in the city are spent and (b) clarification from Harte’s Solicitors on whether or not they have the power to retain all of the parking revenue for spending within the City.

All present agreed.

The business of the meeting then concluded.

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**MAYOR**

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_